of its products. All users of such products are free to lift materials as per their requirements from IPCL and other petrochemical based material producers. If need be, they are free to import items as these are under OGL.

Job reservation for converted Christians in Tamil Nadu

128. SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any recommendation from the Government of Tamil Nadu with regard to the job reservation and concessions for Christians converted from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any action in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Tamil Nadu has recommended inclusion of Scheduled caste Coverted Christians in the list of Scheduled Castes.

(b) and (c) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

(d) The question does not arise.

Financial crisis faced by Bokaro Steel Plant

129. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bokaro Steel Plant is facing an unprecedented financial crunch and that crores of rupees had to be borrowed for payment of salaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the circumstances leading to such a situation; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to retrieve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

DMS as allied service

130. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the offices and departments in Delhi where DMS in functioning as an allied service;

(b) the policy and criteria for posting staff and officers at such places;

(c) the policy and criteria for the transfer of such staff and officers;

(d) whether Government are aware that posting at one place for a long period results into malpractices; and

(e) the steps being taken to avoid long stay of officers and staff at one place?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA):

(a) to (e). The Delhi Milk Scheme has 16 outlets managed by its staff at the following offices and Departments in Delhi.

(i) Parliament House
(ii) Parliament House Annexe
(iii) North Block
(iv) Krishi Bhavan
(v) Udyog Bhavan
(vi) Dak and Tar Bhavan
(vii) Eastern Court
(viii) Yojana Bhavan
(ix) U.P.S.C.
(x) Engineers India Ltd. Building Bhikaji Cama Place
(xi) CGO Complex, Lodhi Road
(xii) Town Hall, Chandni Chowk
(xiii) Vidhan Sabha, Delhi
(xiv) AGCR Building
(xv) Main Gate, DMS
(xvi) Central Dairy, DMS

These stalls are managed by a Stall Manager and Sale Assistant in each stall. However, in the Parliament House, the stall is managed by a Manager (Sales), a Stall Manager, four Sale

Assistants and a Mate. At the Parliament House Annexe, the stall is managed by a Stall Manager, two Sale Assistants and a mate. The staff in all the stalls are transferred normally after every 2 to 3 years.

Increase in support prices of Agricultural Products

131. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise increase in the support prices of various agricultural produce separately during 1991-92 to 1995-96 alongwith the cost prices of the agricultural produces thereof;

(b) the details of the policy implemented by Government to make agriculture remunerative; and

(c) the achievement made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA): (a) The year-wise increase in the minimum support prices of various agricultural commodities during 1991-92 to 1995-96 and the cost of production of crops are given at Annexure [*See* Appendix 176, Annexure No. 36]

(b) The decision of the Government on price policy is implemented through procurement operations by the designated nodal agencies.

(c) Agriculture Price Policy has induced adoption of modern technology and has ultimately resulted in higher production and productivity in successive years.

Proposals received for Inclusion of other Backward castes in the List of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

132. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received proposals for inclusion of Backward and Other Classes in the list of SCs/STs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. About 1134 proposals for inclusion of Backward and other classes in the lists of SC/ST have been received.

(c) No specific time schedule can be indicated as the issues envolved for decision are complex in nature.

Uniform Implementation of WAKF Act, 1995

133. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new Wakf Act has come into force;

(b) if so, how many States have implemented the new Act and whether the States have been asked to implement the Act within a specific period;

(c) whether it has come to the notice of Government that in Karnataka, the Wakf Board is still functioning under the repealed Act; and

(d) what action Government propose to take for the uniform implementation of the Wakf Act, 1995?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b) Immediately on the enforcement of the Wakf Act, 1995 in the country (except State of J & K) with effect from 1st January, 1996, Welfare Minister wrote to Governors/Chief Ministers/Lt. Governors of concerned State Governments/UT Administrations specifying actions/steps required to be taken by them under various provisions of the Act and requesting them to expedite actions/steps.

Apart from an acknowledgement of this letter from a few States/UTs, no specific feedback has been received so far.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) The matter is being monitored and will continue to be pursued with the State Governments/UT Administrations.

Outlay Under JRY

134. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:
SHRI PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state: